the Seventh Five Year Plan as National Highway; and

(b) which other roads in Himachal Pradesh are likely to be included in the list of new National Highways ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) Keeping in view the meagre provision of Rs. 5.00 crores for the development of new National Highways in the Seventh Five Year Plan, no decision has so far been taken about the new additions to be made to the existing National Highways System.

Combination of analgesics causing kidney damage

1706. DR. JOSEPH LEON D' SOUZA :
SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are various public reports indicating the increase of toxicity and specially kidney damage with the use of combination of analgesics;

(b) if so, the names of combination of analgesics permitted to be marketed in our country alongwith the name of each product ;

(c) whether these combinations are marked abroad; and

(d) if so, the names of those countries as well as these where such combinations have been withdrawn ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This Ministry has already banned the manufacture and sale of analgesic preparations containing Phenacetin in the country.

(c) This Ministry has no information.

(d) In so far as this Ministry is aware analgesic combinations containing Phenacetin have been banned in Canada, Denmark, Finland, Italy, Nepal, Sweden, U.S.A., U.K. and Newzealand.

***Combination of Ibuprofen with* Dextropropoxyphene**

1707. SHRI NAND KISHORE BHATT :
DR. JOSEPH LEON D' SOUZA :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that combination of Ibuprofen with Dextropropoxyphene is allowed for marketting ;

(b) if so, what is therapitic rational behind such a combination;

(c) whether it is a fact that such combination is not being marketed anywhere else in the world;

(d) if so, on what basis such combination has been allowed for marketing ;

(e) whether there are any published reports on its rational;

(f) if so, what are the details thereof ;

(g) the names of the manufactures who are marketing such combination alongwith the name each product;

(h) the names of the investigators who conducted the trials of this combination alongwith the details of each report;

(i) whether it is a fact that this combination was cleared by the state drug authorities; and

(j) if so, the name of the authority and the justification for granting permission ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) to (j) Licences for manufacture and sale of formulations are granted by the State Drug Control Authorities, the combination of Ibuprofen and Dextropropoxyphene has been licensed to be manufactured and marketed by the State Drug Control Authorities. As per information available with this Ministry combination of Ibuprofen and Dextropropoxyphene has been licensed for manufacture and sale by the Commissioner Food and Drug Administration, Maharashtra State, to M/s. Wokhardt Pharmaceuticals, Bombay and to M/s. DWD, Bombay and by the Drugs Controller, Himachal Pradesh to M/s. Shivchem Pharmaceuticals Simla. The Drugs Controller, Andhra Pradesh had informed that one firm by name M/s. Ambuja Laboratories, Hyderabad has been permitted to manufacture the combination of Ibuprofen and Dextropropoxyphene but the said firm has latter suspended the manufacture of the said product.

The Commissioner, Food and Drug Administration, Maharashtra State, had informed, that the said combination had been approved by him in consultation with the Professor of Pharmacology, Grant Medical College, Bombay who was apparently of the view that the combination had therapeutic rational.

To the best of our knowledge the combination of Ibuprofen and Dextropropoxyphene is not being marketed anywhere else in the world.

Dangerous effects of Baralgen

1708. SHRI NAND KISHORE BHATT : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Baralgen tablets and injections are being marketed in India;

(b) whether it is a fact that a number of published reports indicating dangerous effects by use of these products have come in various medical journals and bulletins in the world ;

(c) whether it is also a fact that health authorities of most of the developed countries like U.K., Australia, Japan, Sweden etc. have already withdrawn these products from their markets ; and

(d) if the reply to parts (b) and (c) above be in the affirmative what are the reasons for not withdrawing this drug in India ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Reports had appeared regarding the problem of agranulocytosis i.e. fall in the number of granulocyte cells in the blood. This adverse reaction to the drug is allergic in nature and can occur in patients with a specific susceptibility to the drug. However, there is no unanimity of opinion in scientific circles regarding the extent of incidence of agranulocytosis as a result of the use of this drug. It is because of this that while certain countries have